

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s):	Joseph HengTung Lau et al.	Examiner:	
Serial No.:		Group Art Unit:	
Filed:	September 17, 2003	Docket No.:	STL11263
Title:	Laser-Welded Actuator Assembly		

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner For Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**Section 1. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449)**

Form PTO/SB/08A is attached hereto.

**Section 2. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement**

Legible copies of all items listed in Form PTO/SB/08A accompany this Information Disclosure Statement.

**Section 3. Remarks or Additional Statements**

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed along with a new patent application.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *within* three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or *before* the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national Stage as set forth in Section 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but *before* the mailing date of either:

1. a final action under section 1.113; or
2. a notice of allowance under section 1.311  
whichever occurs first.

☐ A fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required because no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) has been made; or

☐ No fee is required because certification statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is noted below.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.113, whichever occurs first, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee.

☐ A fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required and either of the statements below (37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)).

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) Choose either Statement:

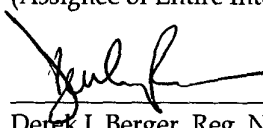
☐ Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing; or

☐ No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in the counterpart foreign application, and to my knowledge no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS.

Consideration of the listed items is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 17, 2003  
Date

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	09/17/2003
First Named Inventor	Joseph HengTung Lau
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	STL11263

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
	AA	US-	5,512,725	04/30/1996	Kelemen et al.	
	AB	US-	5,744,882	04/28/1998	Teshima et al.	
	AC	US-	5,815,345	09/29/1998	Pelstring et al.	
	AD	US-	6,282,053 B1	08/28/2001	MacLeod et al.	
	AE	US-	6,397,470 B1	06/04/2002	Saichi et al.	
	AF	US-	6,441,989 B2	08/27/2002	Nagatsuka	
	AG	US-	6,456,463 B1	09/24/2002	Van Sloun	
	AH	US-	2002/0145822 A1	10/10/2002	Kuwajima et al.	
	AI	US-	2002/0181155 A1	12/05/2002	Takagi et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.